HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM

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NARRATIVE SECTION

Study Unit Themes (chec	k one or more of the following)					
Agriculture Architecture/Landscape Architecture Arts Commerce Communications Community Planning/Development		Conservation Education Entertainment/Recreatio Ethnic Heritage (specify) Health/Medicine Manufacturing/Industry		Politics/Government/Law Religion Science & Engineering Social Movements/Organizations Transportation x Other (specify) Cold War Era		
		Military		x Study Unit Sub-Theme(s)	Health Safety, Medical; Research &	
Statement of Significance					Development	
Date of Construction	1966	Architect/Engineer/Builder	Bouillon Christofferson & Schairer Consulting Engin	neers		

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Date o	of Construction	1966	Architect/Engineer/Builder	Bouillon,	Christofferson & Schairer,	, Consulting Engineers		
x In	x In the opinion of the surveyor, this property appears to meet the criteria of the National Register of Historic Places.							
x In	the opinion of the	e surveyor, this property is	located in a potential historic district (National	and/or lo	cal).			

The 622 Hanford Meteorology Station consists of several buildings and structures that support the complex's function to conduct air monitoring, atmospheric studies and evaluate atmospheric impacts on dispersion of airborne hazardous materials. Scientists and the builders of the Hanford Site established this comprehensive meterological program to determine weather conditions that would allow for safe release of process gasses (especially from the 221 Buildings). Today, the Hanford Meteorology Station compiles climatological data and provides forecasts to the Hanford Site staff and emergency response teams. It is now an U.S. government weather station.

The 622-Meterological Observatory provided space to inflate and track weather balloons, and store helium cylinders and other equipment. Balloons were inflated inside the building and released outside. A theodolite optical device within the building was used to site the balloon through the adjustable aluminum-panel "bubble" opening in the roof. Balloon tracking enabled measurements of upper level winds and other meteorological observations. A mercury barometer inside the building was used to measure the atmospheric pressure.

The 622 Complex played an important role in the pioneering concept of environmental monitoring and ensuring health and safety in the region through studies and use of atmospheric data. The 622-B Meterological Observatory was an essential part of the complex, where weather balloon studies of wind were conducted. It is therefore the conclusion of the U.S. Department of Energy that Building 622-B is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A as a contributing property within the Hanford Site Manhattan Project and Cold War Fra Historic District.

Description of Physical Appearance

The 622-B Building measures 12 feet² and is constructed of concrete block with 2 inch by 6 inch rafters and a wood sheating roof covered by a tar and gravel surface. The roof contains an adjustable aluminum-panel "bubble" opening which permitted the viewing and tracking of balloons with a theodolite. The theodolite still exists in the building (although balloon studies are no longer conducted), and is located on a raised platform under the "bubble". Also located inside the building is a mercury barometer and helium storage racks. The building contains no windows, one double door, and a concrete foundation and floor.

Major Bibliographic References

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Stone, W.A. 1964. Meteorological Instrumentation of the Hanford Area. HW-62455. U.S. Atomic Energy Commission. Richland, Washington.

U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (DOE-RL). 1994. Meteorological and Climatological Services . RL-P94-022. Richland, Washington.